as Government of India. The System will have 80 terminals (SIEMENS) with provision to connect another 72 indigenously available terminals or IBM compatible PCs. This provides a large on-line ime sharing computing environment for IIT Madras. A good CAD station for engineering work is also included in the proposed configuration. The power of the CPU and the online Desk Storage is comparable to the systems available in oher IITs.

Controversial historical facts in N.C.E.R.T. book for Class XI

1695. SHRI VALAMPURI JOHN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for not mentioning of 'Chola Kings' cultural contacts with South East Asia and Sri Lanka in chapter 24 of "Ancient India" a text book for Class XI published by NCERT; and

(b) what are the specific reasons for repeated references of the influence of Sanskrit in Far-East Asia while no mention has been made of Tamil linguistic and literary influences in these places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) The most significant period of Cholas' cultural influence is from 10th to 12th centuries. The textbook entitled 'Ancient India' deals with the period only up to 8th century.

(b) The reference to the influence of Sanskrit in Far-East Asia has occurred thrice. The first reference says that Kamboja was developed as a centre of Sanskrit learning and numerous inscriptions were composed in that language. The second reference is that Sanskrit was the official language of the Champa Kingdom. The third reference is that the Indonesian language contains numerous Sanskrit words.

The period when the influence of Tamil Language and literature on South-East Asia became significant is not covered in the textbook "Ancient India", as such this has not been mentioned.

Controversial reference in N.C.E.R.T. book for Class XI

1696. SHRI VALAMPURI JOHN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pelased to state:

(a) whether the reference to "Madurai" is the Tamil word for "Mathura" found at page 122 line 9 of "Ancient India" a text book for XI standard published by NCERT is based on historical evidences;

(b) if so, what are those evidences; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons for the reference being allowed to be mentioned in this book?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) The reference in the textbook to Madurai as the Tamil word for Mathura is based on linguistic evidence. The great ancient Tamil Poetess Andel in her collection of songs called "Thiruppavai" refers to Mathura as Northern Madurai.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement of ethnic significance in N.C.E.R.T. book for Class XI

1697. SHRI VALAMPURI JOHN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the statement to the

effect that 'Sangam Poets were mainly Brahmans' mentioned at page 124 under the caption 'Rise of Social classes' in 'Ancient India' — a text book for class XI published by NCERT is based on historical evidences or literary evidences;

(b) if so, what are those evidences; and

(c) whether these statements of far reaching ethnic significance are true and if not, what are the reasons for which these statements were allowed to be mentioned in that text book?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI (KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) The statement 'Sangam Poets were mainly Brahmans' does not occur in page 124 of the book 'Ancient India' a text book for Class XI. However, the text reads "Taxes enabled the king not only to maintain a professional army but also to pay the poets and priests who were mainly brahmans. The brahmans first appear in the Tamil land in the Sangam age". The textbook states that the influence of brahmanism was limited.

(c) The statement with regard to the Brahmans in the textbook entitled 'Ancient India' has no ethnic significance. Brahmans have not been treated as an ethnic category.

Conversion of Fazilka telephone exchange into electro-mechanical MAX-II type telephone exchange

1698. SHRI F. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1714 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 12th August, 1986 and state;

(a) what is the present stage of conversion of Fazilka telephone exchange into 800-line electro-mechanical MAX-II type exchange;

(b) whether it is a fact that the project of electro-mechanical MAX II type exchange, which was proposed to be commissioned by March, 1987 is lagging behind the schedule, if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what is the revised schedule and by when the said exchange is likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Fazilka exchange is planned to be converted into 800-lines capacity automatic exchange in 1987-88.

(b) Yes, Sir. Fazilka exchange was proposed to be commissioned in March, 87 but equipments were not available in time.

(c) The Exchange is now planned to be commissioned during 1987-88.

Promotion cases of Lab. Assistants of Marwari Senior Secondary School, Delhi

1699. SHRIMATI MANORAMA PANDEY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some Members of Parliament have represented to Government regarding the promotion cases of Lab. Assistants of Marwari Senior Secondary School, Nai Sarak, Delhi;

(b) whether it is also a fact that after receiving the representations from the Members of Parliament, the Delhi Administration has transferred those Lab. Assistants to another school to avoid the promotions;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to withdraw such orders of transfer and give promotions to the concerned Lab. Assistants;

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor and if the answer to part